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RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION ARA-01

| | | | | | | | |
|------|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| INFO | LOG-00 | ACDA-15 | AID-01 | AMAD-01 | CA-02 | CIAE-00 | SJK-01 |
| | C-01 | DODE-00 | DS-00 | EB-01 | EUR-01 | CSCE-01 | HA-09 |
| | H-01 | INRE-00 | INR-01 | L-03 | ADS-00 | NSAE-00 | OCS-06 |
| | OMB-01 | PA-01 | PM-01 | PRS-01 | P-01 | SCT-03 | SNP-01 |
| | SP-01 | SSC-01 | SSO-00 | SS-01 | TRSE-00 | T-01 | USIE-00 |
| | DTC-01 | /059W | | | | | |

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O 041656Z FEB 92 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8011
INFO USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM IMMEDIATE
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
ARA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
MSGBN QUANTICO VA PRIORITY
USOFFICE MRC MIAMI PRIORITY 1730
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 01135

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PGOV, MASS, ASEC, CASC, PREL, VE
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 9: ATTEMPTED COUP, AS OF 12 NOON,
- 2/4/92

REF: CARACAS 01116 AND PREVIOUS

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

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2. GUNSHOTS HAVE VIRTUALLY CEASED NEAR THE EMBASSY.
LOYAL FORCES HAVE TAKEN CONTROL OF THE LA CARLOTA
AIRPORT, AND ARE SYSTEMATICALLY SEARCHING THE BUILDINGS
THERE FOR POSSIBLE HOLDOUTS. AIR FORCE COMMANDER
GENERAL FUGUET AND THE OTHER AIR FORCE HOSTAGES
(REFTELS) WERE REPORTEDLY RELEASED FROM THE AIR FORCE
BUILDING AT LA CARLOTA ABOUT 1100.

3. JUST BEFORE NOON, ADMIRAL DANIELS (VICE MINISTER OF
DEFENSE) APPEARED ON TELEVISION WITH COMANDANTE (LT.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
DATE/CASE ID: 21 JUL 2006 200503206

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COL.) HUGO CHAVEZ FRIAZ, WHOM DANIELS IDENTIFIED AS THE COMMANDER OF THE SURRENDERED REBELS IN CARACAS. CHAVEZ WAS ALLOWED TO MAKE A BRIEF STATEMENT, THEN LED AWAY. CHAVEZ SAID:

-- THE COUP ATTEMPT WAS MADE PRIMARILY BY MEN FROM TWO UNITS: THE PARACHUTISTS FROM AGAGUA, AND THE ARMoured BRIGADE FROM VALENCIA. THE CARACAS COMPONENT OF THE PLOT DID NOT ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVE.

-- "LAMENTABLY", WE HAVE FAILED.

-- THE NATIONAL GOALS FOR WHICH WE ACTED CANNOT BE ATTAINED AT THIS TIME.

-- TO AVOID FURTHER BLOODSHED, IT IS TIME TO "REFLECT".

-- (PRAISED) THE VALOR OF HIS MEN.

-- URGED THEM TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS.
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4. COUP FORCES (AS OF 12 NOON) WERE STILL IN CONTROL OF POSITIONS IN VALENCIA, INCLUDING THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. WE HEARD FROM STATE GOVERNMENT SOURCES, THAT 6 F-16'S WERE OVERFLYING THE CITY AND THAT AN AIR STRIKE HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT AGAINST THE REBEL HEADQUARTERS IN VALENCIA.

5. AT 1245, DEFENSE MINISTER GENERAL OCHOA APPEARED ON TELEVISION TO CLAIM THAT, EFFECTIVE AS OF THAT MOMENT, CONTROL OF ALL/ALL UNITS IN THE COUNTRY HAD BEEN RECOVERED AND THE COUP ATTEMPT WAS OVER. (THIS MAY STAND UP, BUT IS STILL AT THIS MOMENT NOT FULLY CONFIRMED.)

6. VENEVISION (CHANNEL 4) CARRIED TEXT OF DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT SUPPORTING CAP AND VENEZUELAN DEMOCRACY IN THE NOON NEWS. SKOL

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